



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Operational Selection Policy (OSP)

Welsh Government 2006 – 2011

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1 Authority

- 1.1 The National Archives' Records Collection Policy¹ was published in November 2012, and replaces the 2007 Acquisition and Disposal Policy. The Records Collection Policy sets out which records The National Archives will and will not accept for permanent preservation, when they will collect them and where they will be held.
- 1.2 Operational Selection Policies (OSPs) are intended to be working tools for those involved in the selection of public records. This policy may, therefore, be reviewed and revised in the light of comments received from the users of the records or from archive professionals, the department's experience of using the policy, or as a result of newly discovered information. There is no formal cycle of review but we would welcome comments at any time. The extent of any review and revision exercise will be determined according to the nature of the comments received.
- 1.3 If you have any comments upon this policy, please email: archiveappraisalunit@wales.gsi.gov.uk
Or write to:
Departmental Records Officer
Welsh Government
Library & Archive Services
Cathays Park 2
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

2 Scope

- 2.1 This OSP is for the period 1 April 2006 – 4 May 2011. This covers the introduction of the Government of Wales Act 2006 and the split of the legislative and executive roles of the National Assembly for Wales between the National Assembly for Wales (legislative) and the newly formed Welsh Assembly Government (executive) and continues to the period immediately before new law making powers were granted to the National Assembly for Wales in May 2011.
- 2.2 The OSP lists significant events and/or policies affecting Wales during this period to ensure that records relating to these moments in Welsh history are identified and preserved.
- 2.3 The responsibilities of the Welsh Assembly Government during this period do not cover direct taxation, foreign policy, national defence and the maintenance of law and order (including the administration of justice). Selection of records relating to these functions is, or will be, covered by separate OSPs produced by The National Archives (TNA).
- 2.4 This OSP is not an exhaustive statement of all records that will be acquired but it is intended to provide a clear direction to those who are making review decisions.
- 2.5 The Government of Wales Act 2006, which replaces the Government of Wales Act 1998, provides a definition of Welsh public records and details of this can be found in Part 6 paragraphs 146-148 of that Act. **This does not include the records of the elected Assembly (Assembly Parliamentary Service (APS) which will not be covered by this Policy.**

¹ <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/records-collection-policy-2012.pdf>

- 2.6 This OSP applies to both paper and digital records. The Welsh Assembly Government introduced an electronic document and records management system (EDRMS) across the organisation from March 2012. However, as the system was rolled-out gradually over a four year period, some records produced between 2008-2011 (and therefore covered by this OSP) will be in digital format.

3 Responsibilities of the National Assembly for Wales

- 3.1 By 2006, the Welsh Assembly Government had responsibility in Wales for ministerial functions relating to:
- Agriculture and fisheries
 - Civil emergencies
 - Health and personal social services
 - Education including higher education
 - Welsh language and culture
 - Local government
 - Housing
 - Water and sewerage
 - Environmental protection
 - Land use, including town and country planning
 - New towns
 - Ancient monuments and historic buildings
 - Roads
 - Tourism
 - Industry
 - Certain matters affecting the careers service and activities of the Manpower Services Commission in Wales
 - The operation of the European Development Fund in Wales
 - Other European Economic affairs and regional planning in Wales
 - Sport
 - Countryside and nature conservancy
 - Certain matters concerning the Training Agency in Wales
 - Forestry.
- 3.2 After the 2007 election of the National Assembly for Wales:
- The role of the executive is now to make decisions; develop and implement policy; exercise executive functions and make statutory instruments. The 60 Assembly members in the National Assembly for Wales scrutinise the Welsh Assembly Government's decisions and policies; hold Ministers to account; approve budgets for the Welsh Assembly Government's programmes; and have the power to enact Assembly Measures on certain matters. Assembly Measures can now go further than the subordinate legislation which the Assembly had the power to make prior to 2007.
 - A third body was also established under the Government of Wales Act (GOWA) 2006 in May 2007, called the National Assembly for Wales Commission. It is responsible for employing

the staff supporting the new National Assembly for Wales and for holding property, entering into contracts and providing support services on its behalf.

- GOWA 2006 made new provision for the appointment of Welsh Ministers. The First Minister is nominated by the National Assembly for Wales and then appointed by Her Majesty the Queen. The First Minister subsequently appoints the Welsh Ministers and the Deputy Welsh Ministers, with the approval of Her Majesty. GOWA 2006 created the new post of Counsel General for Wales, the principal source of legal advice to the Welsh Assembly Government.

4 Records Collection Policy (November 2012).

4.1 The National Archives' Records Collections Policy, section 3.1, outlines those themes which form the basis of The National Archives' appraisal and selection decisions. Of these themes, the following are of potential relevance to the work of the Welsh Assembly Government.

3.1.1 The principal policies and actions of the UK central government and English and Welsh Government.

Including:

- records illustrative of the process of developing government policy and legislation
- research and other key evidence upon which policy formulation was based, and records relating to the review and evaluation of policy
- records of the interpretation and implementation of policy and the law. This includes records which illustrate changes of direction or provide clarity on the main functions of government
- records which detail changes in the strategic functions and obligations of the UK and English and Welsh Governments, including treaties and international agreements
- records that illustrate the government's role in the management of the UK economy.

3.1.2 The structures and decision making processes in government.

Including:

- minutes and papers of management boards and other project or working groups across the public sector which have had a discernible impact on policy or events, or where there is likely to be public interest because of the costs involved, risks taken, or impact created
- records detailing the reform of the state's organizational structure, including changes in the machinery of government (the creation, merger or dissolution of departments or agencies) and constitutional arrangements
- records which are illustrative of constitutional relationships between the UK government and the devolved administrations, parliament, or the monarch
- records of commissions, tribunals and inquiries investigating decision-making by ministers and officials or making recommendations for changes in public policy.

3.1.3 The state's interaction with the lives of its citizens.

Including:

- Minutes, case files, datasets and other records which contain extensive information about the lives of individuals or groups, organizations and places, which contribute substantially to public knowledge and understanding of the people and communities of the UK

- records relating to individuals or national and international events of significant contemporary interest or controversy.

3.1.4 The state's interaction with the physical environment.

Including:

- records detailing the impact of government proposals or policies relating to the natural environment
- records illustrative of the property, rights and duties of the Crown and the UK and English and Welsh Governments as a landowner or tenant.

5 Themes for Selection

The themes listed below cover all the functions of the Welsh Assembly Government and include topics that were of particular significance during the period April 2006 to May 2011. As well as records created by the various Welsh Assembly Government divisions, all the records (current and historical) of Assembly Sponsored Bodies which have been subsumed into the Welsh Assembly Government are included in this OSP.

Case files identified in this paper for permanent preservation will be selected according to the criteria set out in OSP30 (for digital records) and OSP48 (for paper records).

The themes have been arranged in alphabetical order. An exception to this is the records of the Government of Wales Act (GOWA) 2006 and Devolution, which are at the beginning.

5.1 Government of Wales Act 2006 and Devolution

- 5.1.1 The Government of Wales Bill (Bill 100 2005-06), had its first reading in the House of Commons on 8 December 2005. It made changes to the way devolution works in Wales. It repealed most but not all of the Government of Wales Act 1998. It created a separation of powers between the legislature (the National Assembly for Wales) and the executive (the Welsh Assembly Government). It created a new power for the Assembly to make law in devolved areas (Assembly measures) and provided for primary law-making powers.
- 5.1.2 Welsh public records created by the former National Assembly for Wales, Assembly Parliamentary Service (APS), that pre-date the May 2007 creation of the new parliamentary bodies were transferred from the Welsh Assembly Government to the National Assembly for Wales Commission (NAWC). These records date from 1999 to 2007, and so the later records were created during the period covered by this OSP. The National Library for Wales has traditionally accepted this material.
- 5.1.3 TNA recommended that there should not be a transfer of ownership / copyright for these public records from the Welsh Assembly Government to the National Assembly of Wales Commission (NAWC). A Memorandum of Understanding is in place which allows the NAWC use of these pre-2007 public records and for the management and maintenance of these records as a condition of stewardship on the Crown's behalf. All matters of disposal of these pre-May 2007 records are the responsibility of the Welsh Assembly Government Departmental Records Officer. Records created by the National Assembly of Wales Commission post May 2007 are designated as non-Welsh public records bodies under the Government of Wales Act 2006. The National Library for Wales has traditionally accepted this material..
- 5.1.4 A referendum, in which the Welsh public were asked "do you want the Assembly now to be able to make laws on all matters in the 20 subject areas it has powers for?" was held on 3 March 2011.

Of a 35.2% voting turnout, 63.49% voted 'yes', and 36.51% voted 'no'. Records relating to the referendum, including the organisation of the referendum itself and both the 'yes' and 'no' campaigns, will be selected.

- 5.1.5 The Commission on Devolution in Wales (the Silk Commission) was launched by Welsh Secretary Cheryl Gillan on 11 October 2011. The independent Commission was established to review the financial and constitutional arrangements in Wales. Its remit is divided into two parts.
- Part I: financial accountability, to review the case for the devolution of fiscal powers to the National Assembly for Wales and to recommend a package of powers that would improve the financial accountability of the Assembly in line with the UK's fiscal objectives and likely to have a wide degree of support. The Commission published its report 'Empowerment and Responsibility. Financial powers to Strengthen Wales' on 19 November 2012. Records relating to the Welsh Government evidence to the Commission will be selected.
 - Part II: powers of the National Assembly for Wales, to review its powers in the light of experience and to recommend modifications to the present constitutional arrangements to enable the UK Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales to better serve the people of Wales.

5.2 Agriculture and Fisheries

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 and s.3.1.4 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) in relation to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government and the state's interaction with the natural environment.

The Welsh Assembly Government's Agriculture department has responsibility for, amongst other things, relations with the European Community; the administration of a number of grant programmes; schemes for encouraging Welsh farming; the Welsh fishing industry; forestry in Wales; and initiatives to introduce more environmentally friendly farming practices.

- 5.2.1 Relations with the European Community, changes in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and subsequent implementation should be captured. Records dating from 2006 to 2011 should be preserved at the National Archives.
- 5.2.2 Funded through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Convergence Programme, the Rural Development Plan (RDP) for Wales 2007-2013 is the main mechanism by which the Welsh Assembly Government delivers support to the countryside and rural communities in Wales including measures to further the sustainable management of the agricultural sector and the environment. Records relating to RDP policy should be considered for selection, although individual case files need not be selected.
- 5.2.3 Grant programmes. Policy papers concerning major changes should be selected. Papers relating to individual grants are not needed. Records of schemes should be transferred to the National Archives.
- 5.2.4 Schemes for encouraging the diversification of Welsh farming should be considered for selection though the records of individual schemes are unlikely to be selected.
- 5.2.5 The One Wales agreement highlights a number of commitments to the development of rural areas including the implementation of a Strategic Action Plan for the dairy industry, which was published in November 2007. Records relating to these areas should be selected.
- 5.2.6 Fishing and Fisheries. Records relating to the imposition of quotas, particular notice of reports of reactions of the fishing community and conservation of fish stock should be selected. These issues are likely to result in the production of statistics. The South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee (SWSFC) (see Annex 1) and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee (NWSFC) (see Annex 2) transferred into

the Welsh Assembly Government in April 2010. This OSP will apply to records created following these mergers, but also to any legacy files brought into the organisation which date from the period covered by this OSP. Historically, SWSFC files were archived at West Glamorgan Record Office in Swansea and NWSFC files at Lancashire Record Office in Preston. Files should continue to be transferred to these bodies to ensure that collections are kept together. Guidance has been given by the National Archives concerning published statistics. Unpublished statistics and databases supporting them should be considered for permanent preservation.

- 5.2.7 Schemes to introduce environmentally friendly and organic farming methods should be considered. Policy decisions should be selected. Individual schemes need to be judged on their own merits. Those where the initiative lies wholly within Wales should be selected. There is no need to select schemes which were originally developed elsewhere in the United Kingdom.
- 5.2.8 The Environment Strategy for Wales and its accompanying Action Plan address issues relating to the management of land and resources. A report was published in September 2007 showing the first year's progress on delivering the Environment Strategy and broader environmental indicators, as well as progress against the Action Plan points. Records relating to this should be selected.
- 5.2.9 Genetically modified (GM) crops in Wales. Records relating to the discussions concerning the ethical issues concerning the introduction of GM crops to Wales, the first experiments in this field specific to Wales and any procedures developed for their introduction should be selected. It is unlikely that there will be a need to continue this once GM crops have become established.
- 5.2.10 Animal health and welfare including the continued effects (including sheep movement restrictions) of the 1986 explosion at the Chernobyl power station and the monitoring of the use of pesticides in Wales should be selected.
- 5.2.11 The Foot and Mouth outbreak in 2001 resulted in large numbers of cattle and sheep being slaughtered. Following the culling of livestock, the Welsh Assembly Government introduced a compensation scheme for affected farmers in Wales worth £8.8m in 2008. Files dealing with establishing this compensation scheme should be selected.
- 5.2.12 TB Health Check Wales (HCW), a one-off test for bovine TB in all cattle herds in Wales, began on 1 October 2008 and was completed on 31 December 2009. It was established to test all Welsh registered cattle herds to gain a more accurate picture of the spread of bovine TB across Wales. It also provided data on which to base subsequent decisions on Wales' testing regime. 3,500 herds were tested during this period. The reports produced as a result of this test, published on 8 December 2010, provide a base from which the TB Eradication Programme is able to make decisions about the future of cattle control and surveillance in Wales. Records relating to the test, the reports and the recommendations for the TB Eradication Programme should be preserved.
- 5.2.13 The Tir Mynydd scheme has operated since the Second World War and is designed to compensate hill farmers for the costs of producing in areas of poor soils, harsh weather and high rainfall. Similar schemes are operated in other parts of the UK, and are likely to be sponsored by the European Union. With the introduction of the Glastir scheme in 2013, Tir Mynydd will be closed to new applicants. Records relating to the abolition of and changes to the scheme should be selected.
- 5.2.14 The Forestry Commission Wales is responsible for managing the various forests that belong to the Welsh Assembly Government. It works closely with the Department for Rural Affairs and gets most of its funding from that source. The Forestry Commission is responsible for the administration of its own records. Files relating to policies agreed between the Welsh Assembly Government and the Forestry Commission will be selected. Records covering grant case files will not be selected for permanent preservation but will need to be retained for some considerable time under legislative requirements as proof of land purchases. Those relating to specific initiatives should be considered for selection.

- 5.2.15 Agriculture and Horticulture Co-operative Scheme – this is the predecessor of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board, which is responsible for horticulture, milk, potatoes, cereals and oilseeds within Wales (it is also responsible for livestock in England). The Board was set up in 2008 by The Agriculture and Horticulture Development Order, sponsored by DEFRA and authorised by the Welsh Ministers. It includes a number of previous organisations and the National Assembly will have had contacts with these. The remit of the Board and its predecessors was to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of the various sectors. As DEFRA was the lead department, records will be taken from that source, but files relating to any input into the order made by the Welsh Assembly should be considered. It is possible that any records selected should be offered to the National Library of Wales.
- 5.2.16 Anthrax outbreaks in Wales. Anthrax outbreaks are relatively rare, but two cows died of anthrax on a beef farm in Rhondda Cynon Taf in April 2006. The anthrax was discovered through routine testing. Records relating to the way in which such emergencies are dealt with should be considered for selection. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement in discovering a cure for the disease should also be selected. (Note: Scientists from Cardiff University have carried out research in this area).
- 5.2.17 Better Woodlands for Wales, which replaced the Woodland Grant Scheme in Wales, was introduced in 2006 to provide grants to people wishing to create and manage woodland throughout Wales. This was administered by Forestry Commission Wales. Records relating to the development of this scheme should be selected. The Woodlands for Wales Action Plan was published in March 2010. It sets out what needs to happen over the next five years to make progress towards achieving the outcomes of Woodlands for Wales, the Welsh Assembly Government's 50 year strategy for trees and woodlands. Records relating to the creation of the action plan and development of the strategy should be selected.

5.3 Culture

This theme is covered by s.3.1.3 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the state's interaction with the lives of its citizens.

However, the National Assembly for Wales has devolved responsibilities in Wales for culture and related issues. Within the Welsh Assembly Government the portfolio of the Assembly Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport covers the arts, museums, archives and libraries, language, heritage, sport and physical activity and lottery issues. Since 1999 a number of public agencies, e.g. the Arts Council of Wales, the Welsh Language Board, Sports Council for Wales, National Library of Wales and Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales, have been funded by, and accountable to, the Assembly following the transfer of responsibility from the former Welsh Office.

- 5.3.1 Welsh Language. Since its establishment, the Welsh Assembly Government has encouraged the use of the Welsh language both in the public sector and among the general population. A new law to promote the Welsh language was unanimously passed by the National Assembly for Wales in December 2010, receiving Royal Assent on 9 February 2011. This measure makes Welsh an official language in Wales, and obliges public bodies and some private companies to provide services in it. Papers dealing with the development of policy in this area will be selected, as will records relating to the introduction of the new law.
- 5.3.2 Under part 9, section 143(1) of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the Welsh Language Board (an Assembly Sponsored Body) was abolished on 31 March 2012. It was replaced by the Welsh Language Commissioner, with the Board's powers being transferred into the Welsh Assembly Government. Whilst these changes were implemented after the period covered by this OSP, any records relating to the decisions to abolish the Welsh Language Board and to merge its responsibilities into the Welsh Assembly Government prior to this legislation should be selected.

- 5.3.3 S4C was established in 1982. This was an important milestone for the Welsh language. Records illustrating the relationship between S4C and the Welsh Assembly Government, and related policy on broadcasting through the medium of Welsh, should be selected. The National Library of Wales has traditionally accepted this material.
- 5.3.4 Museums Strategy for Wales 2010-2015. This was established to create a strategic direction for museums and is based on the Welsh Assembly Government working closely with the museum community in Wales and beyond. This strategy is the first of its kind for museums in Wales. Records relating to the creation of this strategy should be selected.
- 5.3.5 Archives for the 21st Century was produced in parallel versions for Wales and England in 2009. It outlines the challenges faced by the archives sector and highlights the important contributions that archives can make to local communities. Records relating to this initiative in Wales should be selected.
- 5.3.6 CyMAL: Museums, Archives and Libraries Wales was established as a new policy division of the Welsh Assembly Government from April 2004 to develop strategic direction for local museums, archives and libraries and provide financial support and advice. Records relating to these strategic policy decisions should be selected.
- 5.3.7 A new Performance and Assessment Framework for Public Libraries in Wales was issued for 2008-11, to promote the achievement of higher standards in public services in Wales. This Framework includes both Standards and Performance Indicators to raise the quality and standard of public library services for the people of Wales and to provide a management support mechanism for library authorities and their managers that should encourage and develop higher service standards. Records relating to the development of this Framework should be selected.

5.4 Education and Training

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government.

- 5.4.1 The planning and funding of post 16 learning in Wales, including further education, in-work training, school sixth forms and some areas of adult education, became the responsibility of the Welsh Assembly Government in 2006 when the National Council for Education and Training for Wales – ELWa merged into the organisation. The records of ELWa have already been reviewed with selected records being preserved at the National Archives. Records held by the Welsh Assembly Government relating to the National Council for Education and Training for Wales – ELWa merger will also be selected.
- 5.4.2 The Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW) is responsible for the provision and funding of higher education in Wales and is independent from the Welsh Assembly Government. It is responsible for its own records. However, records relating to policy decisions in this field by the Welsh Assembly Government will be selected, as should any that deal with the relationship between HEFCW and the Welsh Assembly Government.
- 5.4.3 The National Curriculum for 3 to 19-year-olds in Wales was reviewed during the period covered by this OSP, with changes being implemented in September 2008. Records relating to this review and the subsequent changes to the National Curriculum in Wales should be selected.
- 5.4.4 ACCAC (Awdurdod Cymwysterau, Cwricwlwm ac Asesu Cymru) (Translation: Qualifications, Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales). In 2006 ACCAC was merged into the Welsh Assembly Government and its functions are now carried out by the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills. Files relating to major policy decisions in this field made within the Welsh Assembly Government and its relationship with ACCAC will be selected.

- 5.4.5 The Welsh Bacculaureate, designed to be taken alongside or instead of A Levels or the International Bacculaureate, was first introduced in September 2003 as a pilot scheme involving 18 schools and colleges in Wales. The qualification was then rolled-out to centres across Wales in September 2007. Files relating to the decision to roll-out the qualification across Wales, and further development of the “Bac” will be selected.
- 5.4.6 In 2010 the Welsh Assembly Government announced that from 2012/13 it would subsidise tuition fees for Welsh domiciled students, regardless of where they study in the UK, by providing a grant to cover the difference in the fees. The student will not have to repay this grant. At the same time, the Welsh Assembly Government also announced that students from Wales would be able to access subsidised loans to help with the cost of going to university which they would not start to pay back until they were earning £21,000. If eligible, a means tested Assembly Learning Grant of up to £5,000 would also be available to help pay for studies. As these arrangements differ to the rest of the UK, records relating to these differences in policy should be selected.
- 5.4.7 The Welsh language in education. Records illustrating the development and changes of policy relating to the use and development of the Welsh language in education, including schemes for the teaching of Welsh to adults will be selected.
- 5.4.8 Foundation schools replaced Grant Maintained schools when they were abolished in 1998. There were few Grant Maintained schools in Wales and so only very few schools became Foundation schools in Wales. In October 2010 it was announced that applications for new foundation schools in Wales would be blocked as part of legislation to improve standards. Records relating to the Welsh Assembly Government attitude to the Foundation school system, and the decision not to accept new applications, will be selected.
- 5.4.9 Careers Wales was set up in 2001 bringing together six regional careers companies across Wales under one national brand name. The Welsh Assembly Government works closely with Careers Wales to deliver a wide range of careers services across Wales. Records relating to relevant policy should be selected. In 2008 the Welsh Assembly Government commissioned a review of Careers Wales’ services. Records relating to this review, its outcomes and any subsequent changes should also be selected.
- 5.4.10 The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill was introduced to the House of Commons on 4 February 2009. The Bill contained provisions on a range of education and training policies and incorporated proposals in relation to apprenticeships, which built on the provisions previously published in July 2008 in the Draft Apprenticeships Bill. Records covering policy matters on this subject should be selected.
- 5.4.11 The Welsh Assembly Government commissioned an independent review of the Mission and Purposes of Further Education in Wales at the end of 2006, chaired by Sir Adrian Webb. The final report, also known as the Webb Report was published in December 2007. Following this there was a consultation period during the spring of 2008, linking up discussion on the Webb Report with consultation on the Skills that Work for Wales Strategy. A Strategy and Action plan was then published in July 2008. Records relating to the initial review, the Webb Report and the Strategy and Action plan, including subsequent outcomes, should be selected.
- 5.4.12 School and college inspections – the National Assembly for Wales has the power to change some of the aspects of the inspection system in Wales. Records relating to cases where this power has been exercised will be selected.

- 5.4.13 The Office of the Chief Inspector of Education and Training known as Estyn is separate from the Welsh Assembly Government and is responsible for its own records. Within the Welsh Assembly Government, records relating to the relationship between it and Estyn will be selected for permanent preservation.
- 5.4.14 The Welsh Assembly Government is eager to promote a culture of lifelong learning within Wales. Files leading to policy decisions will be selected but those relating to individual schemes or educational institutions need not be kept.
- 5.4.15 The Welsh Assembly Government carried out a review in March 2008 of education services for gypsies and travellers, and produced the Moving Forward – Gypsy Traveller Education report. It has always been the policy that children of the Gypsy Traveller community receive an education that is comparable to that received by other children and that their particular needs are fully met. Records relating to the Welsh Assembly Government's approach to this subject and the policies that have been put in place will be selected, as will records relating to the review, report and subsequent changes.
- 5.4.16 Responsibility for providing suitable educational provision for children with special needs lies with Local Education Authorities (LEAs) through the Welsh Assembly Government. The Special Educational Needs (SEN) Code of Practice for Wales was issued in 2002 by the Welsh Assembly Government which included details regarding assessment and statementing as well as provision. Files relating to any policies established following these regulations will be selected.
- 5.4.17 Nursery education. The Early Years curriculum in Wales, produced by the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills, moved towards a new 'Foundation Phase' covering 3-7 year olds in 2008, with a focus on 'learning through play'. Records relating to this new policy should be selected, as should other records relating to nursery education in Wales where it differs to the rest of the UK.
- 5.4.18 Assessment and examinations. The Education Act 2002 deals with the development of Key Stage testing. Welsh records relating to Key Stage testing, or alternative methods of testing, and discussions over standards where they differ from those in place in England will be selected.
- 5.4.19 Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin, which became Mudiad Meithrin in 2011, is a voluntary organisation concerned with the provision of early years support through the medium of Welsh. Though its records will not be public records, files relating to the Welsh Assembly Government's involvement with the organisation will be selected for permanent preservation.
- 5.4.20 There are more than 250 faith schools in Wales, mostly Catholic and in the primary sector. There are only two Muslim faith schools, both of which are independent. Attempts to force faith schools to accept children from other faiths have been opposed, mainly by the Catholic lobby, and the Assembly has been successfully lobbied not to insist on this. Files relating to the establishment of faith schools, particularly non-Christian will be selected for permanent preservation, as will those relating to the Welsh Assembly Government's attitude towards forcing them to become more integrated in the localities.
- 5.4.21 The General Teaching Council Wales (GTCW) was set up following the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 with the main aim of improving teaching standards and the quality of learning. The Council is also required to maintain a register of qualified teachers in Wales, to provide advice on teaching and learning, and to administer the Welsh Assembly Government's funding for teacher development. Records relating to this area, including the Welsh Assembly Government's funding policies, should be selected.

- 5.4.22 In 2007, it was announced that a new training academy for all three armed forces was to be built at St Athan on land acquired by the Welsh Assembly Government. There was to be a £14 billion investment over 25 years with the first intake to the academy due in 2012, becoming fully operational by 2017 when the last of the existing training centres closed. However, various aspects of this plan were subject to change with the academy being downgraded to a "Defence Training College" and the number of jobs being halved. A Public Inquiry into the compulsory purchase of land opened in January 2009 which gave opportunity for the development to be further challenged (in particular, the perceived environmentally damaging and costly approach road). As a result of further campaigns and price rises, the project was cancelled. Records relating to all aspects of this project, including controversial decisions and opposition to the development, should be selected.

5.5 Employment and Demographics

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 and s.3.1.3 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government and the state's interaction with the lives of its citizens.

- 5.5.1 Traditionally, unemployment has been higher in Wales than in other parts of the United Kingdom. The Welsh Assembly Government has introduced a number of schemes to alleviate the social effects of unemployment. Policy files covering the introduction of such schemes, especially where they do not reflect similar schemes in England will be selected. Files relating to the administration of individual projects will not.
- 5.5.2 Schemes designed to get the unemployed back into work are the responsibility of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) through Job Centres Plus and cover both England and Wales. Records covering the main policy decisions will be selected from DWP, but consideration should be given to ensuring that specific Welsh issues are fully represented in this selection.
- 5.5.3 The ReAct II scheme to help people made redundant get back into work was established in 2008, and replaced the original ReAct scheme first introduced in 2004 by ELWa. This is a scheme is partially funded by European money. Files dealing with the policy decision to develop the scheme and to introduce the new ReAct II scheme will be selected.
- 5.5.4 Training for the long-term unemployed (six months or longer) is organised through Job Centre Plus and the policy is mainly determined UK wide. However, Work-based Learning in Wales for young people is run by the Welsh Assembly Government. Files relating to specifically Welsh issues will be selected.
- 5.5.5 The Welsh Assembly Government published a revised Race Equality Scheme covering 2005-2008. These have laid down the policies that the Welsh Assembly Government agreed and actions that have been taken. It covers all areas of Welsh Government responsibility. Records relating to the actions taken by individual departments / Director General (DG) will be selected from the department or DG concerned. The Scheme includes the requirement to collect statistics. The selection of these depends on the importance of the subject covered and in what form, if at all, the statistics are published. (N.B. these could be electronic).
- 5.5.6 Although Wales has no separate legislation covering gender equality, the Welsh Assembly Government wishes to be seen to be proactive in this field. A Gender Equality Scheme was therefore introduced in 2007. Records leading to the development of equality policies and the content of the scheme will be selected.
- 5.5.7 Legislation covering Age discrimination was introduced by the Employment Equality (Age) Act in 2006 and was the same for both England and Wales. Records relating to specific Welsh issues under this legislation will be considered for permanent preservation.

- 5.5.8 The Equality Act 2010 brought together all the legal requirements on equality that organisations in the private, public and voluntary sectors need to meet. The Act protects people from discrimination on the basis of certain characteristics, known as 'protected characteristics'. These are: Age, Disability, Gender Reassignment, Marriage or Civil Partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or Belief, Sexual Orientation and Sex (Gender). Records relating to implementation of the Act as part of Welsh Assembly Government work should be selected. As a result of this Act, the Welsh Assembly Government has developed its own Strategic Equality Plan for 2012-2016. Whilst this is after the period covered by this OSP, records relating to the development of this Plan during this time should be selected.
- 5.5.9 Policy concerning immigration, migrant workers, refugees and asylum seekers and related matters are not devolved functions, although the Welsh Assembly Government has responsibilities concerning the provision of health, education and social services to these individuals. Files concerning the development of specific Welsh policy and covering the decisions leading to important projects will be selected. The Welsh Assembly Government has also published guidance packs for migrants, a copy of which should be lodged with the National Library of Wales as official publications.
- 5.5.10 Although its responsibilities do not cover crime prevention, the Welsh Assembly Government produced the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy paper in 2008. This makes a number of recommendations, some of which will remain the responsibility of the Welsh Assembly Government, while others will be passed to various agencies and other organisations. Records relating to the development of the strategy and high level decisions on how they will be implemented should be selected. Only the records of internally run projects specific to Wales should be considered for permanent preservation.

5.6 Environmental issues

This theme relates to Environmental Information Regulations (2004) and s.3.1.4 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the state's interaction with the physical environment.

- 5.6.1 The Welsh Assembly Government supports a number of initiatives relating to the disposal of waste in Wales, such as the introduction of environmental management systems devised through the Green Dragon Environmental Standard. Wise about Waste: the National Waste Strategy for Wales was issued in 2006 and promotes a number of actions to improve the management of waste in Wales (such as increasing the use of recycled materials and various campaigns for environmentally friendly waste management). The overarching Towards Zero Waste strategy was issued in 2010 and sets out how to build on successes achieved through Wise about Waste and describes a framework for resource efficiency and waste management between 2010 and 2050. Records relating to the development of these policies and strategies, plus any subsequent outcomes, will be selected for permanent preservation.
- 5.6.2 Climate Change is an issue that the Welsh Assembly Government is taking seriously and has therefore introduced a number of initiatives to help combat it. The Climate Change Strategy for Wales 2010 sets out how Wales will act to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It outlines how Wales will prepare for the impacts of climate change, addressing current scientific evidence for climate change and the need for urgent action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. It also covers the Welsh Assembly Government's role in leading and supporting action on climate change and feeds into the Sustainable Development Scheme, One Wales: One Planet with the key target to cut greenhouse gas emissions in Wales by 3% per year by 2050. Files concerning the formulation of this policy, Welsh Assembly Government involvement in related legislation and major projects will be selected.

- 5.6.3 Changes in land use is a likely way in which Wales will respond to climate change, for example an increased requirement for sources of sustainable energy such as wind farms and the introduction of bio-fuel crops being grown in Wales. Both of these have already given rise to controversy whenever a new site is proposed. Records relating to the Welsh Assembly Government's involvement or reaction to any proposals of this nature will be selected.
- 5.6.4 In April 2007 it was announced that the Welsh Assembly Government had requested a public inquiry into a planned offshore wind farm at Llandudno from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). An application was submitted to the DTI in November 2005 to build and operate the Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm. First Minister, Rhodri Morgan said that a "full public inquiry" was needed. However, the UK Government (who had ultimate responsibility for the decision) chose not to hold a public inquiry, despite protests by local people. Under the plans by Npower Renewables, 200 turbines will be sited 15km off Llandudno. Records relating to discussions surrounding this controversial project will be selected, as will records relating to the outcome.
- 5.6.5 The Welsh Assembly Government's interaction with the physical environment, in particular with coastal protection and defence, will be of potential interest. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government policy concerning coastal intervention schemes and defence strategies will be selected.
- 5.6.6 The Welsh Assembly Government has been funding environmental research since at least 2004, mainly through universities. The main purpose of the research is to acquire information to guide future legislation and policies. Files relating to the decisions on what areas of research should be funded will be selected. Files relating to specific research projects will not. It should be assumed that reports would either be published or kept by the universities responsible for their creation.
- 5.6.7 Responsibility for providing advice to the Welsh Assembly Government on wildlife and landscape conservation issues lies with the Countryside Council for Wales. The Council's records are public records in their own right, but policy records relating to the Welsh Assembly Government's relationship with the Council will also be selected for permanent preservation.
- 5.6.8 The Countryside Council for Wales, the Forestry Commission Wales and the Environment Agency Wales will merge together to form a new single environment body (Natural Resources Wales) in April 2013. This new organisation will be a Sponsored Body. Whilst this new body will not come into existence until after the period covered by this OSP, files relating to proposals for a new single environment body for Wales and any involvement by the Welsh Assembly Government in these discussions during this time should be selected.
- 5.6.9 Most reservoirs in Wales are owned by Welsh Water who is responsible for the provision and maintenance of water services, although Clywedog, Lake Vyrnwy and the Elan Valley reservoirs are owned by Severn Trent. Water services are regulated by Ofwat, whose responsibilities cover both England and Wales. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government interaction with these bodies will be selected. Some Welsh reservoirs have been built to supply water to urban areas in England and this has proved contentious. Records that illustrate this attitude will be selected for permanent preservation.
- 5.6.10 There are three National Parks in Wales; Snowdonia National Park, the Pembrokeshire Coast and the Brecon Beacons. The National Parks are managed by a National Park Authority (NPA) comprising of Members appointed by constituent local authorities (two-thirds) and Members appointed by the Welsh Assembly Government (one-third). The revenue and capital budget of the NPA is made up of a National Park Grant from the Welsh Assembly Government and constituent authorities. Records concerning the relationship between the Welsh Assembly Government and the NPA, and any relevant policy, will be selected.

- 5.6.11 In March 2007, the Welsh Assembly Government produced the Policy Statement for the National Parks and National Park Authorities in Wales in response to an independent review of the National Parks, and its subsequent action plan, in 2004. Also, since 2010, the Welsh Assembly Government has been working closely with the National Parks to encourage the development of sustainable tourism via various programmes. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government input into these initiatives should be selected.
- 5.6.12 Since 2007, the Welsh Assembly Government has invested in improving public access to the Welsh coast through its Coastal Access Improvement Programme (CAIP). The 870 miles of coast path will link with Offa's Dyke Path National Trail to create a 1030 mile continuous walking route around the whole of Wales. The Wales Coast Path has been developed by the Welsh Assembly Government in partnership with the Countryside Council for Wales, sixteen local authorities and two National Parks. In addition to funding from the Welsh Assembly Government and the coastal local authorities, the European Regional Development Fund has also provided financial support to the project. Records relating to the Welsh Assembly Government's involvement in this programme will be selected.
- 5.6.13 Heritage Coasts. In Wales there are about 500 miles of coastlines that have been identified as Heritage Coasts. They include about 50% of the coastline between Cardiff and St David's and most of the Gower Peninsula. The designation is not statutory and can only be made with the agreement of local authorities and land owners. Records relating to the formulation of policy regarding Heritage Coasts will be selected.
- 5.6.14 The Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 gives walkers access to the countryside and amends the law on public rights of way within it. This came into force in Wales on 28 May 2005. The Welsh Assembly Government has produced various guidance documents following this during the period covered by this OSP. Files relating to the formulation of any policies and guidance that relate specifically to Wales will be selected.
- 5.6.15 The Commons Act 2006 which covers common land in England and Wales does not include any 'Wales only' provisions though it does delegate powers to the Welsh Assembly Government. These responsibilities include protecting common land from development, improving the protection of common land from neglect and abuse and ensuring that it is managed in a sustainable manner. While files relating to individual pieces of land will not be selected, files covering the development of main policy will.
- 5.6.16 The National Botanic Garden of Wales was opened to the public in May 2000. Initial funding was provided by the Millennium Commission. The Gardens ran into financial problems by 2004 and were assisted by grants from the Welsh Assembly Government, and other bodies. From 2008-2009, the Garden received substantial annual revenue support from the Welsh Assembly Government. In February 2011, the Welsh Assembly Government announced funding of £700,000 for the financial year 2011-12. This followed an independent review of the funding of the Garden. The review stressed the Garden's value to the local economy and its contribution to tourism, science and education. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement will be selected for permanent preservation.
- 5.6.17 A public inquiry examining controversial proposals for a new landfill site was held in November 2008. The local council opposed the proposed site at Parry's Quarry, near Buckley, claiming it did not represent the best means of managing waste. The inquiry was held in Mold. Flintshire council voted 18-2 in favour of opposing the scheme. The company behind the proposals said the site would process domestic and commercial waste, and it was backed by some Flintshire residents. However, the project was opposed by the Local Issues Action Group, which said there are too many old inactive landfill sites in the area. Opponents also had concerns about the health of local residents. Records relating to the public inquiry will be selected, as will records relating to the outcome.

- 5.6.18 On 12 February 2010, Welsh Secretary Peter Hain and Assembly Environment Minister Jane Davidson announced that Wales has been designated one of the UK Government's flagship Low Carbon Economic Areas (LCEA) and will be a lead area for developing alternative fuels, including hydrogen from renewable sources. It was proposed that the M4 in Wales become a "hydrogen highway" with vehicles being able to refuel with hydrogen fuel, or recharge if electric, as part of the first phase to extend the low carbon refuelling corridor along the motorway. It will create the UK's longest hydrogen highway with strategically placed multi fuel filling and recharging points. Records focusing on the introduction of this initiative, and its subsequent development, will be selected.
- 5.6.19 The Severn Barrage refers to a range of ideas for building a barrage from the English coast to the Welsh coast over the Severn tidal estuary. Ideas for damming or barraging the Severn estuary (and Bristol Channel) have existed since the 19th century. A Severn Tidal Power Feasibility Study was undertaken between 2008 and 2010, but plans for a Severn estuary barrage tidal energy project costing £30bn (which supporters claim could have produced up to 5% of the UK's energy) were scrapped in October 2008. The Welsh Government decided to keep possession of 350 acres of land near Lavernock Point, the potential landfall for a Severn barrage in the Vale of Glamorgan. The Minister for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science Edwina Hart agreed to the retention of the landholding in the Lavernock area, "until such time as the Welsh Government's position on options for generation of tidal power in the Severn Estuary and housing proposals for part of the land are determined". Records relating to the Welsh Government's involvement in the Severn Barrage will be selected.
- 5.6.20 In 2005 the Welsh Assembly Government launched the Energy Wales route map as a consultation exercise. The aim of the project was to ensure that Wales would be self-sufficient in renewable energy by 2025. Files relating to the development of relevant policy issues and methods by which this aim would be realised will be selected. Papers of all projects related to the issue will not be selected.

5.7 Health and Social Services

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government.

- 5.7.1 The National Assembly reduced prescription charges from £4 to £3 in 2006 and abolished them altogether in 2007. Records relating to the "free prescriptions" policy decision and its implementation will be selected.
- 5.7.2 In Wales the role of the private sector in NHS healthcare is diminishing and the internal market, and its purchaser / provider split, no longer operates. The National Assembly does not encourage involving the private sector in the NHS and has ruled against introducing foundation status to hospitals and trusts. The Welsh Assembly Government has opted to limit or abolish charges for NHS services. It has also adopted a more collaborative approach to patient involvement in healthcare. Files relating to Welsh Assembly Government decisions in this area and those that illustrate its relationship with the private sector will be selected.
- 5.7.3 A public consultation was launched in 2008 regarding a possible reorganisation of the NHS in Wales. Files relating to the decision to carry out this consultation and the methods agreed to do so will be selected, as will records relating to the outcome and subsequent actions.
- 5.7.4 On 1 October 2009, following the above consultation, the biggest NHS reforms in a generation came into effect in Wales. The former 22 Local Health Boards and seven NHS Trusts were replaced with seven integrated Local Health Boards, responsible for all health care services. Records illustrating the development of these changes and related policy will be selected.

- 5.7.5 In 2006 the regulation of all private and voluntary health care in Wales became the responsibility of the Healthcare Inspectorate Wales (HIW) – part of the Welsh Assembly Government. HIW implemented the healthcare aspects of The Concordat between Bodies Inspecting Regulating and Auditing Health and Social Care in Wales. As of 1 April 2006, the functions of the Local Supervising Authority (LSA) for the statutory supervision of midwives in Wales transferred to HIW. In addition, responsibility for conducting annual monitoring of the higher education institutes offering approved Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) programmes in Wales passed to HIW. Files relating to the establishment of HIW and the extent of its responsibilities will be selected for permanent preservation.
- 5.7.6 Since 1 April 2006 new dental contracts between dentists and Health Boards have resulted in changes to the dental system in Wales. The main changes are that NHS Patients are no longer required to be registered with a particular dentist, there are now three standard charges for NHS treatment (different to those in England) and Health Boards are responsible for providing out of hours treatment rather than individual dentists. Files concerning proposals and decisions that relate to dental care arrangements in Wales, especially where they differ from the rest of the UK, will be selected.
- 5.7.7 The Welsh Assembly Government set up the Eye Care Wales website in order to promote the Welsh Eye Care Initiative (WECI), a scheme which aims to minimise sight-loss in Wales by means of detecting eye problems in susceptible individuals through an Eye Health Examination. The scheme also ensures urgent attention for acute eye problems via the Primary Eyecare Acute Referral Scheme (PEARS) and provides a low vision service which is accessible to any patient with a visual impairment. Records relating to this scheme, and Welsh Assembly Government involvement in it, will be selected.
- 5.7.8 The Designed for Life paper published in 2005 put forward a strategy for the future of Health and Social Care in Wales. The strategy covers a 10 year period up to 2015. Records relating to Designed for Life and any reviews and subsequent developments of the strategy will be selected.
- 5.7.9 In 2005, there was an outbreak of E.coli in South Wales. This was the largest outbreak ever to take place in Wales. Following the outbreak the First Minister held a Public Inquiry, chaired by Sir Hugh Pennington, into the causes. Whilst this outbreak occurred before the period covered by this OSP, the outcome of the Inquiry and subsequent recommendations would have continued into this period. Records relating to the procedures introduced to meet the Inquiry report's recommendations will be selected.
- 5.7.10 As elsewhere in the United Kingdom, the provision of care and support for the elderly is the responsibility of the local authorities. The Welsh Assembly Government makes high level policy decisions and provides guidance. Records relating to these functions will be selected, in particular those relating to charges that can be levied for services and the application of recommendations from enquiries and surveys, especially if the processes in Wales differ from those in place elsewhere in the UK.
- 5.7.11 A Commissioner for Older People was appointed, and the Commissioner's Office established, following the implementation of the Commissioner for Older People (Wales) Act 2006. Records relating to the development and introduction of the Act, including subsequent related policy will be selected.
- 5.7.12 A ban on smoking in enclosed public places was introduced in Wales on 2 April 2007, two months before a similar ban was introduced in England. The UK government allowed the Welsh Assembly Government to make its own decision on a smoking ban, in spite of the fact that it is not usual for such powers to be given. Files created in the lead up to this precedent should be selected, as well as those relating to the smoking ban and its implementation.

- 5.7.13 Obesity, and in particular child obesity, is of concern in Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government, together with the Department of Health in England, commissioned the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) to survey the situation and produce guidance on the best way to deal with the problem. This was completed in 2006. The survey's recommendations are now being implemented through a number of projects. Records illustrating Welsh Assembly Government involvement in the survey and subsequent initiatives and policies will be selected.
- 5.7.14 The Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 makes statutory provision to tackle child poverty in Wales. The Measure came into force on 10 February 2010 and, in addition to tackling child poverty, also makes provision for play and participation, child minding and daycare regulations and Integrated Family Support Teams. The Measure requires Welsh Authorities, including Welsh Ministers and local authorities, to prepare and publish a strategy for contributing to the eradication of child poverty in Wales. The Welsh Assembly Government's Child Poverty Strategy was published in February 2011. Records concerning the introduction of the Measure, the drafting of the Strategy and the development of related policy will be selected.
- 5.7.15 The Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 was introduced on 22 March 2010 by the Minister for Health and Social Services. The Measure addresses issues relating to the assessment of mental health and the treatment of mental disorder in Wales, and establishes a duty for Health Boards and Local Authorities to deliver local primary mental health support services. The Measure makes a number of important changes to previous legislative arrangements for the assessment and treatment of people with mental health problems. Records relating to the Measure, and any policy decisions resulting from its introduction, will be selected.
- 5.7.16 Statistics concerning health issues where there is a higher incidence in Wales than in England (e.g. coronary heart disease, smoking related diseases) will be selected. These are likely to be in an electronic format and it is likely that the full versions will be of greatest value. (N.B. Ensure that the background information on any selected material is also kept).
- 5.7.17 Wales has the highest cancer rate in the UK and the Welsh Assembly Government has introduced a number of strategies to help combat the disease. Policy documents relating to Welsh Assembly Government activities in this field will be selected. Files dealing with specific projects need not be.
- 5.7.18 The All Wales HIV Network aims to provide a full and equitable partnership so that policy and practice can be influenced by experience and evidence. The remit of the All Wales HIV Network includes providing support for the Positive Participation Forum, establishing and maintaining a service directory for people living with HIV and informing policy and practice on issues related to living with HIV in Wales. Files relating to the setting up of the All Wales HIV Network and the Welsh Assembly Government's involvement will be kept, as will any files relating to policy emerging from this partnership.
- 5.7.19 The Sexual Health Strategy 2010-2015 renewed the Welsh Assembly Government's commitment to improve the sexual health and wellbeing of the population, to narrow sexual health inequalities and to develop a society that supports open discussion about relationships, sex, and sexuality. It forms part of the Welsh Assembly Government's Our Healthy Future strategy to improve the quality and length of life and to ensure that everyone has a fair chance to lead a healthy life. Records illustrating these activities and related policies will be selected.
- 5.7.20 From Friday 1 April 2011, Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) became available and free of charge in approximately 700 community pharmacies across Wales, meaning that women would no longer need to visit their doctor to receive this treatment. This followed an announcement from Health Minister Edwina Hart in November 2010 that this initiative would be introduced in Wales. The move was part of a series of actions intended to help reduce the rates of unwanted teenage

pregnancies. Pharmacists are also able to dispense emergency contraception to under-16s if they believe it is appropriate. Records relating to the discussions and decision to introduce this initiative, and any developments following its introduction, will be selected.

- 5.7.21 The question of hospital closures is likely to be included in party manifestos, often with pledges being given that none will take place. The Welsh Assembly Government will be responsible for the policies that are later introduced. Files relating to the formation of any policy will be selected but papers relating to the closure of individual hospitals will not.
- 5.7.22 The Turnaround project, first introduced in 2003, is a programme funded by the Welsh Assembly Government in 7 Community Safety Partnerships in Gwent and South Wales. The programme's aim is to help young people aged 14-19 to overcome their substance misuse and social exclusion problems, by a specific intervention programme. In 2007, the Welsh Assembly Government published regulations covering this issue and also funded a number of other related projects. In March 2009, an independent review of the Turnaround project was carried out. Files concerning the development of the Turnaround project and related regulations, and those detailing any actions and outcomes following the review in 2009, will be selected.
- 5.7.23 The Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust / Ymddiriedolaeth GIG Gwasanaethau Ambiwllans Cymru (WAST) was established on 1 April 1998. Since its establishment it has had a history of performance issues. In 2006, as a result of widespread concerns about its management and failure to meet performance targets set by the Welsh Assembly Government, the Wales Audit Office produced a report (published in December 2006) and a new Chief Executive – Mr Alan Murray – was appointed to run the Trust. A follow up review by the Audit Office published in June 2008 found that significant progress that had been made in a number of areas resulting in clear improvements in performance against the required targets and standards. Records relating to the issues surrounding the Trust, the reviews and the subsequent improvements will be selected.

5.8 Housing

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government.

- 5.8.1 Although the provision of affordable and social housing is the responsibility of local authorities, the Welsh Assembly Government is responsible for major policy issues, including some financial decisions. In 2007 the Welsh Assembly Government appointed a review group, under the chairmanship of Sue Essex AM, to look at issues concerning affordable housing. The review was published in 2008. Records leading to the decision to set up the group will be selected, as will those containing details of the review and its outcomes.
- 5.8.2 Council tenants' "right to buy" their homes was introduced in 1980. By 2002 some Councils were experiencing difficulty in meeting the demand for affordable rented accommodation. The National Assembly requested the UK government to allow it to suspend the tenants' right. A similar request was made in 2007 relating in particular to rural areas. Files concerning the Welsh Assembly Government's involvement in this issue will be selected.
- 5.8.3 The Welsh Assembly Government commissioned research into the accommodation needs of the gypsy and traveller communities as part of an equal opportunities policy in 2004. The Travelling to a Better Future Framework, published in 2012 but in development during the period covered by this OSP, also includes accommodation as one of the key policy areas. Files relating to the findings of the research carried out in 2004, and the development of the Travelling to a Better Future Framework will be selected.

- 5.8.4 Proposals for tackling fuel poverty were published in a draft National Energy Efficiency and Savings Plan (NEESP) and a draft Fuel Poverty Strategy in 2009. Following public consultation, the final Fuel Poverty Strategy was published in July 2010. This strategy proposed the development of a new fuel poverty programme to replace the existing Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES). Files relating to these plans/strategies will be selected for permanent preservation, as will those containing details of the introduction of any new schemes.

5.9 Industry

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 and s3.1.4 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government and the state's interaction with the physical environment.

- 5.9.1 With the decline of traditional heavy industry in Wales, the new high tech industries have become increasingly important. As well as IT generally, they include the Aerospace industry, construction industries, entertainment industries and tourism related industries. Welsh Government has developed a number of initiatives to encourage and support these developments, in particular smaller private companies. Files relating to the formulation of Welsh Government policy in this area will be selected. Files relating to its involvement with individual projects and companies will not.
- 5.9.2 Regeneration schemes in deprived areas, particularly for those areas in which the main industry no longer operates, have been established by the Welsh Assembly Government over the past few years. There have also been a number of initiatives to support existing industries in Wales and to encourage the introduction of new ones. Files relating to these initiatives will be selected for permanent preservation if the information contained in them is of sufficient significance.
- 5.9.3 In 2003, BAE/EADS opened a factory at Broughton in Flintshire to make wings for the Airbus. Since then the factory expanded to make wings for both military and commercial aircraft, and became the largest recently built factory in the UK. In 2006, BAE sold out its remaining shares in the Airbus to EADS, a Dutch/German consortium. There was some dispute surrounding the value of these shares, with Rothschild Investment Bank independently valuing them well below expectations. Files relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement and its attitude towards the sale to EADS will be selected.
- 5.9.4 The aerospace sector in Wales is a dynamic growth industry that operates on best practice techniques, and is supported directly by Team Wales (Welsh Assembly Government and the Aerospace Wales Forum). As well as Airbus, firms involved include British Airways Maintenance (Cardiff), British Airways Avionics Engineering (Llantrisant) and Defence Support Group (DSG) (St Athan and Sealand) as well as a number of others. Files illustrating the policy decisions to support the development of aeronautical and aerospace industries will be selected.
- 5.9.5 There is a well-established automotive industry in Wales. World leaders such as Toyota and Ford have factories in north and south Wales respectively. In 2007 Takao Europe Manufacturing Ltd bought the old Yajuma factory in Ebbw Vale and re-opened it. The Welsh Assembly Government has encouraged these developments and records illustrating this will be selected.
- 5.9.6 Steel production in Wales is now almost completely confined to the Port Talbot Steelworks though there are subsidiary works elsewhere in the area. A merger between the privatised British Steel and the Dutch firm Koninklijke Hoogovens took place in 1999 with the formation of Corus. In 2007, Corus itself was taken over by the Indian firm Tata. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement in these changes will be selected as will those relating to attempts to keep steel production within Wales.

- 5.9.7 Tower Colliery was the largest and last deep coal mine to be closed in the South Wales Valleys. Following its closure by British Coal in 1994, it was bought out by a consortium of miners using some of their redundancy pay to do so. This action was opposed by the government at the time. The mine remained in operation until 25 January 2008 when it finally closed. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government attitude towards Tower Colliery will be selected and also those that relate to its final closure.
- 5.9.8 The Korean firm LG Electronics opened an electronics factory in Newport in 1996. This was the largest single inward investment in Europe at the time and was welcomed by the government. However the financial collapse in Asia in 1997/98 threatened its future and large job cuts, both actual and for the future, were likely as the building of the factories ceased. The site closed in 2006 and was bought in 2007 by the Quinn Group. Records relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement with the development of the Newport site and subsequent history will be selected.
- 5.9.9 On 20 July 2006 the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) announced that the Wylfa Nuclear Power Station would be shut down in 2010 because operation beyond then would not be economical given plans to shut down the Magnox spent fuel reprocessing plant at Sellafield. However, in 2010 the NDA announced that this date would be extended to 2012, beyond Wylfa's 40th anniversary as a generating power station in January 2011. Files relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement will be selected.
- 5.9.10 St. David's (previously known as St. David's Shopping Centre) is one of the principal shopping centres in the city centre of Cardiff. Owing to the extension of St. David's 2 in 2009, St. David's is now the eleventh largest shopping centre in the United Kingdom. The construction of the extension cost a total of £675m and brought Cardiff within the top five shopping destinations in the United Kingdom. The centre consists of original first phase, St. David's Centre, adjoining St. David's Hall and the second phase, given the development name of St. David's 2. The second phase of the shopping centre, opened on 22 October 2009, when the first 58 of its 88 stores opened for trade. Files relating to any involvement from the Welsh Assembly Government will be selected.

5.10 Land Use and Planning

This theme is covered by s.3.1.4 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the state's interaction with the physical environment.

- 5.10.1 The Heads of the Valleys Programme was established in 2006 and is a strategy designed to regenerate a large area in south east Wales. This is being carried out by the Welsh Assembly Government in partnership with the five local authorities of Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Blaenau-Gwent and Torfaen. It has been designed to be in place for 15 years and will cover a wide variety of activities, including the encouragement of the economy and introducing new opportunities; improved educational opportunities, encouraging tourism, supporting the natural, historical and built environment. The first awards made under the scheme were made in 2007. Policy documents dealing with the development of this programme will be selected. Records relating to individual schemes will not be selected.
- 5.10.2 Flooding is regarded as an important issue in Wales. European grants are made available for work required to ensure that coastal and flood defences are in place. The Welsh Assembly Government has led a number of programmes and projects to minimise risks. Records relating to the overall policy decision will be selected. Records relating to individual projects will not be selected, except in the case of a countrywide policy. Records relating to individual schemes will not be selected.

- 5.10.3 Coed Darcy. This “new village” is being built on brown field land, formerly the site of the BP Llandarcy Oil Refinery. Work started on building the first 150 homes and 58 apartments in June 2008. The £1.2 billion community development will comprise of 4,000 homes, community facilities, employment space and open space covering 1,300 acres (5.3 km²). Four new schools (1 Welsh primary, 2 English primaries and 1 secondary) are planned. The design specification was developed with input from The Prince’s Foundation and it will be developed as an urban village. The development is expected to take 20 years to complete with full completion anticipated by 2026-28. Concerns were expressed about some green belt land being used in addition to the brown field site and the Countryside Council for Wales will be monitoring the development of the village. Any files relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement will be selected.

5.11 Local Government

This theme is covered by s.3.1.2 of TNA’s Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the structures and decision-making processes in government.

- 5.11.1 Policy files that illustrate the changing relationship between Welsh Government and the local authorities will be selected. Remember that local authorities will be transferring their records to local record offices and try to avoid duplication.
- 5.11.2 A recovery board was appointed to oversee Anglesey County Council in 2009 after an earlier inspection found it had a long history of not being run properly and after years of political infighting. Local Government Minister Carl Sargeant announced in March 2011 that Commissioners would be appointed to run the troubled council. The proposal was that the Commissioners remain with the council until at least 2012 to ensure the council could be turned around. Records relating to the initial inspection and report, and those concerning the introduction of the Commissioners, will be selected.
- 5.11.3 The Welsh Assembly Government has the power to cap the budget requirements of local authorities in Wales, though no authority has been capped recently. Files containing discussions on the possibility of capping will be selected for permanent preservation as will any which deal with the policy to be followed.
- 5.11.4 Land drainage covers all waterways with the exception of major rivers and maintenance of these is the responsibility of local authorities. However the Welsh Assembly Government has produced a series of targets for land drainage and coastal defence agencies to meet. Records illustrating Welsh Assembly Government policy decisions in this area and for any subsequent targets will be selected.
- 5.11.5 The Planning Inspectorate Wales is responsible for processing planning and enforcement appeals and holding inquiries into local development plans. Only files that illustrate the relationship of Welsh Government with the Planning Inspectorate Wales will be selected. Records relating to individual appeals will not be selected.
- 5.11.6 The Welsh Assembly Government established a review of local public service delivery in Wales in July 2005, as part of the action plan for implementing its Making the Connections strategy. The Assembly Government commissioned Sir Jeremy Beecham to chair the review team which would focus on identifying improvements for local service delivery, and on examining how existing arrangements for accountability could be used, developed and adapted to support this innovation. The Beecham Review focused on the following cross-cutting themes: organisational structures; governance and accountability; performance management; strategy and planning; business process; and finance. The Review was published in July 2006. Records relating to the Welsh Assembly Government’s response to the review and implementation on the findings of the review will be selected.

5.12 Sport

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government.

- 5.12.1 In 2006, a meeting was held between First Minister Rhodri Morgan and Lord Sebastian Coe chairman of the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games to consider ways in which Wales could become fully involved in the London 2012 Olympics. The Games were seen as an opportunity for Welsh companies to compete for contracts in the preparations. It was also felt that the economic and tourist benefits should be maximised. Files that illustrate the ways in which the Welsh Assembly Government intended to forward these aims will be selected.
- 5.12.2 Like many regions in the UK, Wales planned to play an active part in the London 2012 Olympics, with a number of events to be held within the country. These included cycling, football and some Paralympics events. A number of sporting venues in the country were built or extended during the period covered by this OSP in preparation for the Olympics. Files relating to the policy decisions to take an active part, discussions over what and where events would be held in Wales and formation of plans for implementing these decisions should be selected. Detailed records of individual projects should not.
- 5.12.3 Ryder Cup 2010. The 38th Ryder Cup was held 1–4 October 2010 at the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport. It was the 17th time the Ryder Cup had been staged in Britain, but the first time in Wales. The tournament was played on the newly-constructed Twenty Ten course, specifically designed for the event. The competition was officially opened by First Minister Carwyn Jones. A concert, dubbed 'Welcome to Wales', was held at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff on 29 September 2010, two days prior to the beginning of the Ryder Cup. The event was partially funded by the Welsh Assembly Government. Records relating to the event, and the Welsh Assembly Government's involvement should be selected.
- 5.12.4 Wales Rally GB. On 19 February 2011 the Welsh Assembly Government announced their intention to serve notice to terminate their contract with International Motor Sports Limited (IMS) following the decision of the FIA, the World Motorsport Governing body, to change the status of the Wales Rally GB meaning that it would no longer be an annual event. This was contrary to the original five year agreement with the Welsh Development Agency (WDA) made in 2006, before they merged with the Welsh Assembly Government. As part of the original agreement, a multi million pound commitment was made by the Welsh Assembly Government to host an annual round of the World Rally Championship in Wales and it was felt that continuing with the contract when this could not be guaranteed would be an inappropriate investment of public funding. However, the Welsh Assembly Government indicated willingness to enter into discussions on possible alternative arrangements, including a re-evaluation of the sponsorship amount. Files relating to this will be selected.

5.13 Tourism

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 and s.3.1.4 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government and the state's interaction with the physical environment.

- 5.13.1 Until 2005, the main responsibility for tourism in Wales lay with the Welsh Tourist Board (WTB). In 2001, the First Minister announced a review of the WTB as part of an on-going series of reviews of Assembly Sponsored Bodies. Resulting from this review the decision was made to bring the WTB into the Welsh Assembly Government. WTB was abolished as a separate organisation at the beginning of April 2006 and replaced by the Welsh Assembly Government's Visit Wales team. Although the merger pre-dates the period covered by this OSP, the WTB brought with it many legacy files (i.e. Board Papers) which should be selected for preservation.

- 5.13.2 The bulk of records created by Visit Wales take the form of promotional material and publications. These were transferred as a matter of course to the NLW under Visit Wales' previous incarnation (WTB) and so this arrangement should continue. This is reflected in the NLW's Collection Policy (see notes on Publications and photographic material below).

5.14 Transport & Highways

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 and s.3.1.4 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government and the state's interaction with the physical environment.

- 5.14.1 In 1999 plans were put forward for a new M4 route bypassing Newport. This road would have been of interest as it was planned to be only the second toll motorway in the UK. There was a great deal of controversy over this as vehicles crossing the Severn Bridge into Wales already pay a toll, this, together with a possibility of congestion charges in Cardiff would have meant three tolls in a relatively small area. There were also environmental and historical concerns. Files relating to these plans and the decision made in 2009 not to implement them will be selected.
- 5.14.2 Plans for a 14-mile (22.5km) M4 relief road running from Magor to Castleton were announced in September 2007. Plans included improvements around Tredegar Park junction, the Brynglas tunnels and the Coldra roundabout, bringing into public use a seven-mile dual carriageway through the Corus site in Newport, and improving the southern distributor road through Newport. These plans were scrapped in July 2009 when the work rose from its original £340m estimate in 1998, to £1bn which was deemed to be "unaffordable". Records relating to these plans and the decision made in 2009 not to implement them will be selected.
- 5.14.3 ftrmetro Swansea (also known as the Swansea Metro) bus rapid transit route began operating on 1 June 2009. The route is served by FTR articulated buses in an attempt to relieve traffic congestion and provide alternative transport to cars. The Welsh Assembly Government provided £2.2m in funding to help launch the scheme and the local bus operator First Cymru has paid for the fleet, at a cost of £300,000 per vehicle. Records relating to this scheme and related policy will be selected.
- 5.14.4 The Welsh Assembly Government published a National Transport Plan in July 2009, which included mention of possible improvements to the A55 in North Wales including the removal of the two roundabouts at Penmaenmawr and Llanfairfechan. Records relating to any improvements on this major road will be selected.
- 5.14.5 The A465 is a major road in south Wales more commonly known as the Heads of the Valleys Road because it joins together the northern ends (or 'heads') of the South Wales Valleys. In 1994, the possibility was raised of upgrading the whole of the A465 to a 2-lane dual carriageway. Construction began in the spring of 2002. Work to the Abergavenny to Gilwern section began in February 2005. This section was a largely on-line upgrade of the existing single-carriageway road. This section was completed on 22 May 2008. The National Transport Plan, published in March 2010, estimated that the Brynmawr to Tredegar section would be completed by 2014 and Gilwern to Brynmawr would be started by the same date. The remaining sections from Dowlais Top to the A470, and from the A470 to Hirwaun, are to be completed by 2020. Records covering this long-term road improvement programme will be selected.
- 5.14.6 Minister for Economic Development and Transport, Andrew Davies announced proposals for an improvement route on the A470 between Cwmbach and Newbridge-On-Wye in Powys in November 2005. The construction scheme began in February 2010 and included a number of measures, such as the removal of the existing sharp bends, bridge restrictions and the addition of safer overtaking opportunities. The project was completed on time and on budget, being officially opened on 8 December 2011. Records relating to this scheme will be selected.

- 5.14.7 In March 2007 controversial proposals to upgrade a Flintshire bypass into a seven-lane expressway went to public inquiry. Protestors against the development of the A494 trunk road near Queensferry, said that the upgrade would raise the speed limit from 50mph to 70mph, increase traffic and noise and “tear the heart out of the community”. The area suffered badly from congestion, and the widening scheme would have improved the A55’s links with the motorways in North West England. Records relating to the public inquiry will be selected, as will records relating to the outcome.
- 5.14.8 Unpredicted snow storms wreaked havoc across Wales in February 2007. 602 schools and many more business were forced to close and traffic was heavily disrupted. Parts of the M4 motorway were temporarily closed and 500 people were trapped in cars on the A48 between Carmarthen and Cross Hands. Files including reference to any involvement from the Welsh Assembly Government, including any related policy, should be selected.

5.15 Miscellaneous matters

- 5.15.1 Civil emergencies. In March 2011 10,000 people took part in Exercise Watermark, Britain’s biggest ever civil emergency exercise to test the country’s response to catastrophic floods. Exercise Watermark was organised by DEFRA, and involved ten government departments, 34 local resilience forums, emergency responders, water and energy companies, hospitals and schools. One of the exercises was held in the Dyfed-Powys area. Any files relating to Welsh Assembly Government involvement will be selected.
- 5.15.2 Welsh Nationalism. There are a number of organisations in Wales which have supported an increased measure of home rule or outright independence. From time to time, the Welsh Assembly Government would have had contact with these groups. Records, which illustrate the approach of the Welsh Assembly Government to issues raised by these groups or its response to actions taken by these groups in support of their objectives, will be selected.
- 5.15.3 The Welsh Public Services Ombudsman absorbed the responsibilities of the Welsh Administration Ombudsman together with the Health Service Ombudsman for Wales in 2006, as a result of the Public Services Ombudsman (Wales Act). Records relating to the abolition of the Administration Ombudsman and the establishment of the Public Services Ombudsman will be selected. Records created by the Welsh Assembly Government relating to individual cases should be treated as they have been in the past. The records of the Public Services Ombudsman are not regarded as Welsh Public Records and will remain the responsibility of the Ombudsman. Most individual case records are made public in an anonymous form.

5.16 Welsh Development Agency (WDA)

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 and s.3.1.2 of TNA’s Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government and the structures and decision-making processes in government.

The WDA was established in 1976 under the Welsh Development Agency Act 1975. Its purpose was to further the economic development of Wales; to promote industrial efficiency and to further the improvement of the environment of Wales. The Government of Wales Act 1998 extended its powers to cover the social and community responsibilities held by the Development Board for Rural Wales and the Land Authority for Wales. On 1 April 2006 the WDA was subsumed into the Welsh Assembly Government.

Its records were not Welsh public records prior to its incorporation into the Welsh Assembly Government but, at that point, all records still held by the Agency became public records under the terms of the Public Record Act 1958.

Whilst the merger pre-dates the period covered by this OSP, there are still a number of legacy files which the WDA brought with them when they merged into the Welsh Assembly Government.

- 5.16.1 A complete set of WDA Board minutes and papers will be selected.
- 5.16.2 Minutes of top level divisional meetings will be selected for permanent preservation, but check that these are not routinely included among the Board minutes and papers.
- 5.16.3 Since WDA was abolished there have been suggestions that it should be re-established in different forms. If serious discussions on this possibility have taken place, a record of any such discussions will be selected. There are likely to be references to a number of functions and activities carried out by WDA mentioned in other sections of this OSP. The same criteria that relates to them should be extended to WDA records.

5.17 Cadw

This theme is covered by s.3.1.1 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the principal policies and actions of the [...] Welsh Government.

The Welsh Assembly Government's historic environment division (CADW: Welsh Historic Monuments) is responsible for the country's built heritage.

Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments was established in 1991 as a "Next Steps" executive agency of the Welsh Office. It was responsible for protecting the historic environment, including listing, scheduling, and taking monuments into guardianship. Policy records relating to its establishment and to its main responsibilities will be selected. Operational records will be selected in accordance with an Operational Selection Policy on the Preservation of the Built Environment (OSP 17). Records relating to the monuments dealt with by Cadw are transferred to the National Monuments Record of Wales at the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales at Aberystwyth.

- 5.17.1 Cadw will keep records relating to buildings which are in their guardianship – these will cover the terms and conditions under which they came into guardianship, information on alterations and repairs to the fabric of the buildings and to any artefacts that they contain. The Welsh Government's DRO working with Cadw staff will be responsible for identifying and selecting such records with the advice of a designated officer from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW).
- 5.17.2 Records relating to the relationship between Cadw and the Welsh Assembly Government will be selected; and also relating to the relationship between Cadw and RCAHMW.
- 5.17.3 Records relating to high level policy originating in the National Assembly will be selected for permanent preservation ensuring that there is no overlap between the Welsh Assembly Government and Cadw records before they are selected.
- 5.17.4 The Retention Schedule for Cadw should be used as guidance in reviewing Cadw records.

5.18 Public Inquiries

This theme is covered by s.3.1.2 of TNA's Records Collection Policy (2012) relating to the structures and decision-making processes in government.

- 5.18.1 In 2005, there was an outbreak of E.coli in South Wales. This was the largest outbreak ever to take place in Wales. Following the outbreak the First Minister held a Public Inquiry, chaired by Sir Hugh Pennington, into the causes. Whilst this outbreak occurred before the period covered by this OSP, the outcome of the Inquiry and subsequent recommendations would have continued into this

period. Records relating to the procedures introduced to meet the Inquiry report's recommendations will be selected.

- 5.18.2 In March 2007 controversial proposals to upgrade a Flintshire bypass into a seven-lane expressway went to public inquiry. Protestors against the development of the A494 trunk road near Queensferry, said that the upgrade would raise the speed limit from 50mph to 70mph, increase traffic and noise and "tear the heart out of the community". The area suffered badly from congestion, and the widening scheme would have improved the A55's links with the motorways in North West England. Records relating to the public inquiry will be selected, as will records relating to the outcome.
- 5.18.3 In April 2007 it was announced that the Welsh Assembly Government had requested a public inquiry into a planned offshore wind farm at Llandudno from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). An application was submitted to the DTI in November 2005 to build and operate the Gwynt y Môr offshore wind farm. First Minister Rhodri Morgan said that a "full public inquiry" was needed. However, the UK Government (who had ultimate responsibility for the decision) chose not to hold a public inquiry, despite protests by local people. Under the plans by Npower Renewables, 200 turbines will be sited 15km off Llandudno. Records relating to discussions surrounding this controversial project will be selected, as will records relating to the outcome.
- 5.18.4 A public inquiry examining controversial proposals for a new landfill site was held in November 2008. The local council opposed the proposed site at Parry's Quarry, near Buckley, claiming it did not represent the best means of managing waste. The inquiry was held in Mold. Flintshire council voted 18-2 in favour of opposing the scheme. The company behind the proposals said the site would process domestic and commercial waste, and it was backed by some Flintshire residents. However, the project was opposed by the Local Issues Action Group, which said there are too many old inactive landfill sites in the area. Opponents also had concerns about the health of local residents. Records relating to the public inquiry will be selected, as will records relating to the outcome.

Mergers (Machinery of Government Changes) during the period covered by this OSP

The Wales Office (Swyddfa Cymru) is a United Kingdom government department. It is a replacement for the old Welsh Office (Swyddfa Gymreig), which had extensive responsibility for governing Wales prior to Welsh devolution in 1999. The Wales Office is responsible for its own records and has its own DRO.

The Secretary of State for Wales has overall responsibility for the office but it is located administratively within the Department for Constitutional Affairs. This was carried out as part of the changes, announced on 12 June 2003, that were part of a package intended toward replacing the Lord Chancellor's Department.

Name of organisation	Date of transfer
NHSRH – Workforce & Education Branch at the Welsh Assembly Government – transfer to the National Leadership and Innovation Agency for Healthcare (NLIAH)	1 April 2006
Welsh Development Agency (WDA)	Transferred 1 April 2006. In accordance with National Assembly for Wales Statutory Instrument 2005 No.3226 (W.238) all WDA records and databases were to be transferred to the Welsh Assembly Government Departmental Records Officer (DRO) to facilitate the transfer of functions to this body agreed by Order in Council on 22 November 2005 by the National Assembly for Wales.
Wales Tourist Board (WTB)	Transferred 1 April 2006. In accordance with National Assembly for Wales Statutory Instrument 2005 No.3225 (W.237) all WTB records and databases were transferred to the Welsh Assembly Government Departmental Records Officer (DRO) to facilitate the transfer of functions to this body agreed by Order in Council on 22 November 2005 by the National Assembly for Wales.
ELWa	Transferred 1 April 2006. In accordance with National Assembly for Wales Statutory Instrument 2005 No.3238 (W.243) all NCETW records and databases transferred to the Welsh Assembly Government Departmental Records Officer (DRO) to facilitate the transfer of functions to this body agreed by Order in Council on 22 November 2005 by the National Assembly for Wales.

Name of organisation	Date of transfer
ACCAC	Transferred 1 April 2006. In accordance with National Assembly for Wales Statutory Instrument 2005 No.3239 (W.244) all ACCAC records and databases were transferred to the Welsh Assembly Government Departmental Records Officer (DRO) to facilitate the transfer of functions to this body agreed by Order in Council on 22 November 2005 by the National Assembly for Wales.
NHSR – WORKFORCE & EDUCATION BRANCH (WAG – to – NLIAH)	On 1 April 2006 the functions of th. NHSR – WORKFORCE & EDUCATION BRANCH at the Welsh Assembly Governmen. transferred to the National Leadership and Innovation Agency for Healthcare (NLIAH).
DYSG	In accordance with the Public Records Act 1958 S.3 (6), all DYSG records and databases were transferred to Welsh Assembly Government Departmental Records Officer (DRO) as an alternative to destruction on 1 May 2006.
Tir Gofal Scheme (from Country Council for Wales to WAG)	Transfer took place on 16 October 2006
In accordance with National Assembly for Wales Statutory Instrument 2006 No 1717 (W.179) all Tir Gofal records and databases were transferred to the Welsh Assembly Government Departmental Records Officer (DRO) to facilitate the transfer of functions to this body agreed by Order in Council on 28 June 2006 by the National Assembly for Wales.	
APS (Assembly Parliamentary Services)	May 2007
Marine Fisheries Agency and Marine Management	Transfer of function into WAG on 1 April 2008
DEFRA (Animal Health Agency. (From WAG to Animal Health Agency)	Transfer of function out of WAG in October 2008
South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee	Transfer of function into WAG on 1 April 2010
Local Government Data Unit	Transfer into WAG on 1 April 2010
Health Commission Wales (HCW)	Transfer from WAG to Local Health Boards (LHB). HCW abolished 31 March 2010 HCW function now carried out by Welsh Health Specialised Services Team (WHSST)

Welsh Assembly Government Organisational Structure between 2006-2011

2006

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
First Minister	Permanent Secretary		
	Business and Information Management Services	Statistics Business and ICT development Merlin Partnership Information and Knowledge Management Location Implementation Programme	
	Business Development		
	Strategy and Communications	Strategic Policy Economic Advice Communications	
	Human Resources	HR People HR Facilities and Emergencies	
Economic Development and Transport	Economic Development and Transport	Wales European Funding Office Policy and Strategy Finance and Corporate Services Transport Wales Roads Networks Management Transport Policy and Administration Rail and New Roads Broadband wales Economic Policy Trade and Invest Wales Office of Chief technology Officer Knowledge Bank	
Assembly Business Equalities and Children			

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Social justice and Regeneration	Social Justice and Regeneration	Housing Private Sector and Renewal Social Housing Regulation and Investment Renewal Housing Strategy and Service Construction and Fire Policy Equality Policy Voluntary Sector Community Safety Crime Reduction Director CAFCASS Cymru	
	Legal Services Department		
Finance local Government and Public Services	Finance	Assembly Budget Planning and Management Financial Advice and Governance Internal Audit Estates Division New Building Team Care standards Inspectorate Wales Social Services Inspectorate	
	Local government Public Services and culture	Public Administration Public Service Local Government Policy Local Government Finance Culture Welsh language and Sport CyMAL Making the Connections PSMW	

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Health and Social Services	Health and Social Services	Community Primary Care and Health Service Quality Standards and Safety Improvements Resource Directorate Children's Health and Social Care Older People and Long Term Care Policy Performance and Operations Strategy Unit Regional Offices	
	Office of the Chief Medical Officer	Health Professionals	
	Office of the Chief Nursing Officer		
Environment, Planning and Countryside	Environment Planning and Countryside	Environment Protection and Quality Environment Conservation and Management Food and Market Development Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer Countryside Policy Rural Payments Planning Technical Services Chief Environmental Scientist	
Education and Lifelong Learning	Training and Education	Lifelong Learning Training Skills and Carers Higher Education Pupil Support Children Strategy Youth and Pupil Teachers and Leadership Schools Management Standards and Performance Business Systems Devolution and Student Support	

2007

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
First Minister	Permanent Secretary		
	Corporate Information and Services	Statistics Business and ICT Development Merlin Partnership Information and Knowledge Management	
	Business Development		
	Strategy equality and communications	Strategic Policy Economic Advice Communications Strategy Equality and Diversity Office of Chief Social Researcher	
	Human resources	HR Delivery HR Strategy and Change HR Technology HR Facilities and Emergencies	
Enterprise innovation and Networks	Enterprise innovation and Networks	Policy and Strategy	Strategy and review Business Policy Transport and Infrastructure e-Wales Energy Wales Heads of the Valleys Integrated Delivery
Assembly Business Equalities and Children			Wales European Funding Office
Social Justice and Regeneration	Social Justice and Regeneration	Housing	Private Sector and Renewal Social Housing Regulation and Investment Renewal Housing Strategy and Service Construction and Fire Policy
		Communities Community Safety Home Office Crime Unit CAFCASS Cymru	Voluntary Sector
	Legal Services Department		

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Finance Local Government and Public Services	Finance	Assembly Budget Planning and Management Financial Advice and Governance Internal Audit	
	Local Government and Culture	Culture Welsh Language and Sport CyMAL CADW Local Government Constitutional Affairs Public Administration	
	Public Services and Performance	Making Connections Public Service Management Value Wales Care Standards Inspectorate Healthcare Inspectorate Social Services Inspectorate	
Health and Social Services	Health and Social services	Community Primary Care and Health Service Quality Standards and Safety Improvements Resource Directorate Children's Health and Social Care Older People and Long Term Care Policy Performance and Operations	
		Strategy Unit Organisational Development and Training NHS Human Resources	Health Research and Development
	Office of the Chief medical officer	Health Professionals Public Health	
	Office of the Chief Nursing Officer		
Environment, Planning and Countryside	Environment Planning and Countryside	Environment Protection and Quality Environment Conservation and Management Food and Market Development Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer Countryside Policy Rural Payments Planning	

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Education and Lifelong Learning and Skills	Education Lifelong Learning and Skills	Children and Schools Qualifications and Curriculum Lifelong Learning and Skills Higher Learning Group	

2008

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
First Minister	Permanent Secretary		
	Corporate Information and Services	Statistics Business and ICT Development Merlin Partnership Information and Knowledge Management	
	Business Development		
	Strategy Equality and communications	Strategic Policy Economic Advice Communications Strategy Equality and Diversity Office of Chief Social Researcher	
	Human Resources	HR Delivery HR Strategy and Change HR Technology HR Facilities and Emergencies	
Enterprise Innovation and Networks	Enterprise Innovation and Networks	Policy and Strategy	Strategy and Review Business Policy Transport and Infrastructure e-Wales Energy Wales Heads of the Valleys integrated Delivery
		Operations	Regions Trade and Invest Wales Knowledgebank for Business and Innovation Invest Wales Finance wales
Assembly Business Equalities and Children			Wales European Funding Office

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Social Justice and Regeneration	Social Justice and Regeneration	Housing	Private Sector and Renewal Social Housing Regulation and Investment Renewal Housing Strategy and Service Construction and Fire Policy
		Communities Community Safety Home Office Crime Unit CAFCASS Cymru	Voluntary Sector
	Legal Services Department		
Finance Local Government and Public Services	Finance	Assembly Budget Planning and Management Financial Advice and Governance Internal Audit	
	Local Government and Culture	Culture Welsh Language and Sport CyMAL CADW Local Government Constitutional Affairs Public Administration	
	Public Services and Performance	Making Connections Public Service Management Value Wales Care Standards Inspectorate Healthcare Inspectorate Social Services Inspectorate	

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Health and Social Services	Health and Social Services	Community Primary Care and Health Service Quality Standards and Safety Improvements Resource Directorate Children's Health and Social Care Older People and Long Term Care Policy Performance and Operations	
		Strategy Unit Organisational Development and Training NHS Human Resources	Health Research and Development
	Office of the Chief Medical Officer	Health Professionals Public Health	
	Office of the Chief Nursing Officer		
Environment, Planning and Countryside	Environment Planning and Countryside	Environment Protection and Quality Environment Conservation and Management Food and market development Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer Countryside Policy Rural payments Planning	
Education and Lifelong Learning and Skills	Education Lifelong Learning and Skills	Children and Schools Qualifications and Curriculum Lifelong Learning and Skills Higher Learning Group	

2009

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
First Minister	Permanent Secretary		
	Corporate Information and Services	Statistics Business and ICT development Merlin Partnership Information and Knowledge Management	
	Business Development		
	Strategy equality and Communications	Strategic Policy Economic Advice Communications Strategy Equality and Diversity Office of Chief Social Researcher	
	Human Resources	HR Delivery HR Strategy and Change HR Technology HR Facilities and Emergencies	
Economy and Transport	Economy and Transport	Policy and Strategy	Strategy and Review Business Policy Transport and Infrastructure e-Wales Energy Wales Heads of the Valleys Integrated Delivery
		Operations	Regions Trade and Invest Wales Knowledgebank for Business and Innovation Invest Wales Finance wales
Council General and Leader of the House	Constitutional Affairs and Equality and Communication		Wales European Funding Office

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Social Justice and Local Government	Social Justice and Regeneration	Housing	Private Sector and renewal Social Housing regulation and Investment Renewal Housing strategy and Service Construction and Fire policy
		Communities Community safety Home Office Crime unit CAFCASS Cymru	
	Legal Services Department		
Finance Public Services and Delivery	Finance	Assembly Budget Planning and management Financial Advice and Governance Internal Audit	
	Public Services and Performance	Making Connections Public Service Management Value Wales Care Standards Inspectorate Healthcare Inspectorate Social Services Inspectorate	
Health and Social Services	Health and Social Services	Community Primary Care and Health Service Quality Standards and Safety Improvements Resource Directorate Children's Health and Social Care Older People and Long Term Care Policy Performance and Operations	
		Strategy Unit Organisational Development and Training NHS Human Resources	Health Research and Development
	Office of the Chief medical officer	Health Professionals Research and Development Public Health	
	Office of the Chief nursing Officer		

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Environment, Sustainability and Housing	Environment Planning and Countryside	Environment Protection and Quality Environment Conservation and Management Food and Market Development Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer	
Children Education and Lifelong Learning and Skills	Education Lifelong Learning and Skills	Children and Schools Qualifications and Curriculum Lifelong Learning and Skills Higher Learning Group	

2010

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
First Minister	Permanent Secretary		
	Corporate Information and Services	Statistics Business and ICT Development Merlin Partnership Information and Knowledge Management	
	Business Development		
	Strategy equality and Communications	Strategic Policy Economic Advice Communications Strategy Equality and Diversity Office of Chief Social Researcher	
	Human Resources	HR Delivery HR Strategy and Change HR Technology HR Facilities and Emergencies	
Economy and transport	Economy and Transport	Policy and Strategy	Strategy and review Business Policy Transport and infrastructure e-Wales Energy Wales Heads of the Valleys Integrated Delivery
		Operations	Regions Trade and Invest Wales Knowledgebank for Business and Innovation Invest Wales Finance Wales
Council General and Leader of the House	Constitutional Affairs and Equality and Communication		Wales European Funding Office

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Social Justice and Local Government	Social Justice and Regeneration	Housing	Private Sector and Renewal Social Housing regulation and Investment Renewal Housing strategy and Service Construction and Fire policy
		Communities Community Safety Home Office Crime unit CAFCASS Cymru	
	Legal Services Department		
Finance Public Services and Delivery	Finance	Assembly Budget Planning and Management Financial Advice and Governance Internal Audit	
	Public services and Performance	Making Connections Public service Management Value Wales Care Standards Inspectorate Healthcare Inspectorate Social Services Inspectorate	
Health and Social Services	Health and Social Services	Community Primary Care and Health Service Quality Standards and Safety Improvements Resource Directorate Children's Health and Social Care Older People and Long Term Care Policy Performance and Operations	
		Strategy Unit Organisational Development and Training NHS Human Resources	Health Research and Development
	Office of the Chief Medical Officer	Health Professionals Research and Development Public Health	
	Office of the Chief Nursing Officer		

Ministerial Portfolio Level 1	Departmental Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Environment, Sustainability and Housing	Environment Planning and Countryside	Environment Protection and quality Environment Conservation and management Food and market development Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer	
Children Education and Lifelong Learning and Skills	Education Lifelong Learning and Skills	Children and Schools Qualifications and Curriculum Lifelong Learning and Skills Higher Learning Group	
Heritage	Culture Welsh language and Sport CyMAL CADW		
Rural Affairs	Countryside Policy Rural payments Planning		